

# BRITISH SHIP AT VERA CRUZ REFUSED TO CARRY HUERTA ARMS

## PORT OF VERA CRUZ, THAT MAY HAVE BEEN SEIZED TO-DAY

until morning or to awaken the President and inform him of the imminence of the crisis. It was finally determined to act immediately.

The President was aroused from sleep and the situation explained to him. He approved of the recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy that Admiral Fletcher be given authority to act the instant the emergency arose.

At 4 o'clock this morning instructions were sent by wireless to the Admiral on his flagship at anchor off Vera Cruz. The custom house and city may be seized by American marines at any minute.

Indicating that he considered all of the plans working out without a hitch, President Wilson took no part in the events of the afternoon. Accompanied by Dr. Grayson and with his guard of secret service men he went across to Virginia to play a round of golf as a relaxation to his tense nerves.

As the merchant vessel loaded with ammunition belongs to a neutral foreign power with whom the United States is on friendly terms, it would be impossible to stop her or in any way interfere with her progress on the high seas. But if this Government takes possession of the custom house at Vera Cruz the ship will be obliged to make formal entry, and thus the cargo will pass under temporary control of American officials in charge.

There was a report that Admiral Fletcher's forces would not be resisted and that the Huerta forces intended to retire to the railroad trestle twenty miles west of Vera Cruz. Officials refused flatly to discuss it.

Many officials declared they believed Huerta had been playing for time merely to get in the large shipment of arms which Admiral Fletcher has been ordered to cut off. As there is no blockade, the American forces cannot seize the munitions until after they have been landed.

Numerous messages from Charge O'Shaughnessy were received by Secretary Bryan to-day, but he declined to discuss their contents. Neither would he indicate whether or not news of anti-American demonstrations had reached him.

Emphasizing the crisis in the situation at Vera Cruz, the Navy Department to-day ordered the torpedo flotilla at Pensacola to proceed to Vera Cruz instead of to Tampico.

There was a long session of the Cabinet before the Senate met.

John Lind, the President's special envoy to Mexico, was sent for when the Cabinet meeting broke up, and he with Secretary of War Garrison, Secretary of State Bryan and the President consulted for some time. Secretary Tumulty was sent up to the Capitol by the President with instructions to urge the Democratic majority in both houses to expedite in every way possible the resolution which would permit the President to act. As a result of the anxiety displayed by the President and his advisers to have the resolution passed by Congress immediately it became evident that a number of serious questions had arisen in addition to that of preventing the German arms shipment from reaching Huerta.

Immediately following his return from the White House, Secretary Daniels called a conference with Admirals Blue, Fiske and Winterhalter. The seriousness of the Mexican situation is being placed in the hands of the Navy Department. Secretary Garrison issued orders that none of his subordinates, not even the Chief of Staff, should discuss developments. He said he would undertake the task of being the sole "mouthpiece" for the department. Elsewhere there was silence to-day.

Garrison said he had no immediate plans for troop movements, but that he was prepared to shift his forces at a second's notice. Activity at army and navy headquarters continues. Secretary of the Navy Daniels was in touch with Admiral Rodgers' fleet and was keeping the admiral posted on the developments here. However, he made public, no orders and it was stated none would be until after action had actually been taken.

An embargo has been laid on the wireless of the battleships speeding south. While they can report their position no word will be permitted to be sent of any action they may take until that action is completed. It is explained that when the Mexican ports are blockaded it will not be announced publicly until all of the nations of the world, through their diplomatic representatives here, are apprised of the action and asked to have their commerce respect it.

Little official word comes through from Mexico City. Huerta's boast that he will protect all Americans and other foreigners that remain in Mexico is not accepted here. It is very frankly stated at the State Department that the information received there indicates Huerta could not protect Americans even if he so desired should an agitation against them be started.

Navy officials were very bitter to-day over the constant reiteration of the word "speeding!"

Speeding! The word is repeated over and over again in the newspapers and in the streets. It is a word that is used to describe the action of a ship that is moving quickly.

First—For a blockade of the several ports and the seizure of the custom houses.

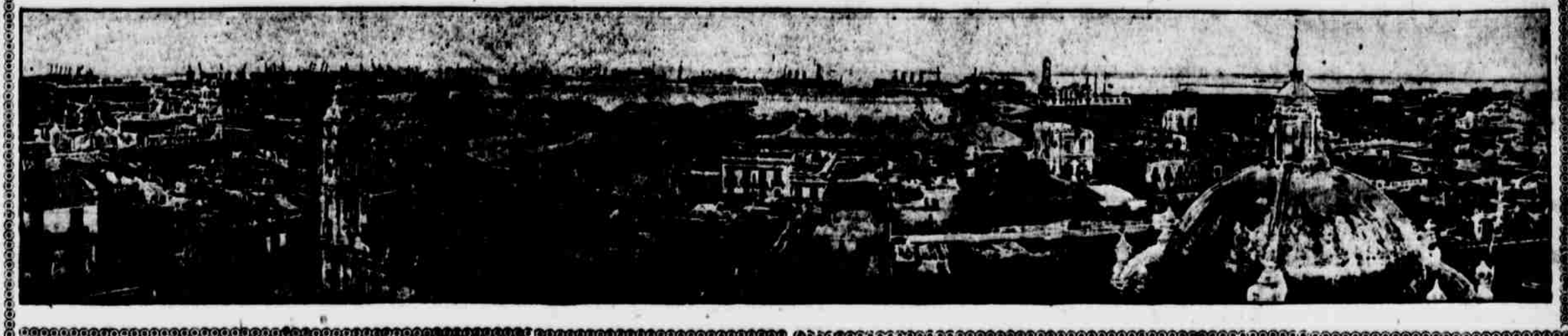
Second—In the event this plan fails, for the despatch of 12,000 regular troops, the division now at Galveston and Texas City, to Vera Cruz, whence they will begin a march to Mexico City. When the first division is under way a second division will be assembled from the regular troops in the East and sent to Vera Cruz.

Secretary Garrison has sent to the Adjutant-General of every State a telegram asking how many men could be furnished by the militia for service in Mexico in the event they were needed.

Orders have been sent to Brig.-Gen. Funston, at present in command at Texas City, to put his men aboard the transports for duty. These regiments will be mobilized at Fort Bliss, across the Rio Grande from Juarez, Mexico, now in the hands of the hands of the revolutionists.

There is unusual activity among the officer of the joint Army and Navy Board. At an extended conference of this board there were present Admiral of the Navy George Dewey, Major Gen. Wood, Major Gen. Winters, Major Gen. Fiske, Major Gen. Sutherland, Brig.-Gen. Weaver and Crozier.

Joint operations of the army and navy in the event of a general move-



### BRITISH STEAMER REFUSES TO TAKE ARMS TO HUERTA

English Admiral at Vera Cruz Orders Merchantman Not to Handle War Material.

VERA CRUZ, April 21.—The Mexican Federals have felt the force of the embargo which is to be placed against the Government even before it is formally ordered by the United States.

Acting under orders from Admiral Craddock, commanding the British vessels here, the oil-carrying steamer El Zorra has refused to transport ammunition to the Federal forces at Tampico. The vessel was to have left last night. Upon receipt of the instructions from Admiral Craddock the cargo of ammunition was discharged and the Zorra sailed to-day without a single gun or a pound of ammunition for the Federal forces.

The captain explained that England's friendly relations with America would not permit his vessel to run by the fleet with war material.

Sir Lionel Carden sent a long cablegram to London after conferences here yesterday with Admirals Craddock and Fletcher. He then left for Mexico City on a special car. His attitude here led to the belief that he expected to wield great influence over Huerta.

A large number of Americans and other foreigners are on their way here from the capital to-day. They occupy two sections of the ordinary train, as well as a special train.

Everything remains quiet in this city. Eighty-seven American refugees, including men and women, are to-day aboard the ships Mexico and Esperanza, chartered by the United States Government. About fifty are aboard the Mexico and as that vessel was unable to leave last night, owing to high winds and a rough sea, it is believed she will remain here until she has as many refugees as her accommodations will permit.

Gen. Mass, Military Governor of Vera Cruz, to-day received instructions from Mexico City to preserve peace here at any cost. Gen. Mass declared he did not believe there would be any trouble in Vera Cruz even under the most acute circumstances.

The Pearson Oil Company trade boat San Eduardo is now under orders from the British Government. Instructions were received by the captain to-day that the San Eduardo should be held in readiness to respond to any orders from the British Consul.

ment in Mexico occupied the attention of these officers for more than two hours.

It was said at the War Department that arrangements had about been completed for chartering a number of merchant vessels to be used for the transportation of troops.

Col. Rogers of the Panama Canal Organization was asked to supply the names and capacities of the ships of the Panama Railroad which could be pressed into service at an hour's notice. No new orders went to any of the reserve fleets of the navy. Secretary Daniels said the navy had all the ships and men needed for the first operations.

Inquiries at the State Department failed to elicit any information as to whether the President would issue a proclamation notifying the world of his intention to blockade the Mexican ports, or whether he would informally and through the American representatives abroad notify foreign countries that a blockade had been established at certain ports.

No opposition is expected from any foreign Government. It is the belief here that Germany, Great Britain and France will not offer any objection to a general blockade after receiving assurances that their interests will be protected and looked after by the United States.

Mr. Bryan said that no orders had been sent to Charge O'Shaughnessy to leave his post and is not expected to do so unless requested by Huerta. Mr. Bryan said he did not think that Huerta would openly declare war on the United States by giving Mr. O'Shaughnessy his passport.

The United States in turn will not ask General Alvaro, the Charge d'Affaires of the American Embassy here, to leave.

### AMERICANS LEAVE REBEL TERRITORY ON U. S. ADVICES

Followers of Carranza and Villa Now Talking of United Action by All Mexicans.

CHIHUAHUA, April 20, via El Paso, Tex., April 21.—Consul Letcher, on instructions from Washington, is notifying Americans in this city and other towns of the State of Chihuahua to leave the country as a precaution against possible unfortunate eventualities growing out of the decision of the Washington Government to seize Tampico and Vera Cruz.

They will be sent out in small bodies if time permits, as a general exodus, it is feared, might precipitate trouble. Six American women left to-day.

EL PASO, Tex., April 21.—Six Americans, eight Germans and nine Frenchmen and women arrived here to-day from Chihuahua. The Americans confirmed the statement they were instructed to leave by Marion Letcher, the American Consul. They said Mexicans in Chihuahua held the belief that the rebels would be unable to remain out of the Huerta-Washington complication and added that rebel leaders feel compelled to accept the view that the blockading of Tampico and Vera Cruz would be a national matter affecting the honor of every Mexican, regardless of political affiliations.

Letcher, they said, was endeavoring to get the Americans out without attracting undue attention and his efforts in this direction were being assisted by Gen. Carranza. Most of the latter's conference with Gen. Villa yesterday, they asserted, was devoted to consideration of the Tampico incident and its developments as affecting the rebels.

The gravest view was taken, according to report. In the cafes, clubs and other gathering places Mexican citizens, practically all of whom are rebel sympathizers, said openly that President Wilson's course was an affront to the Mexican nation and that a common enemy must be met by a united country.

Meanwhile, there was no definite announcement of policy by Carranza, the Americans reported, adding that it seemed to be his purpose by silence to imply the truth of reports that he would continue with the revolution regardless of foreign complications. This, they said, in view of the excited talk in the cafes and elsewhere, deceived nobody.

In El Paso prominent rebel sympathizers were unanimous, so far as they could be questioned, in their belief that Huerta alone but the national honor was at stake.

Patrols of soldiers kept watch in the Mexican section of this city last night, but there was no disorder.

VETERANS AT PANAMA WANT T. R. TO LEAD THEM.

PANAMA, April 21.—Veterans of the Spanish-American war now in the Canal Zone to-day started to form a volunteer corps, which Col. Roosevelt will be asked to lead in case of war with Mexico.

The greatest activity prevails among the marines and soldiers in the zone. Target practice and maneuvers were ordered to-day. The dredging forces are working day and night in the Cucuracha slides, cleaning the passage for warships. The canal will be ready within a week's time.

Col. Goethals to-day cancelled arrangements for a trip he expected to take and will remain here in charge of the work preparing the canal for immediate use.

The Tenth Infantry here is in readiness and awaiting a call to board transports for service.

Gaynor Off on Honeymoon. Mr. and Mrs. Norman J. Gaynor, honeymooners, sailed away to-day on the Cunarder Saxonia. The son of the former Mayor and his bride, who was Miss Betty Page of Virginia, a niece of Thomas Nelson Page, Ambassador to Italy, were married about a week ago and are bound for the Mediterranean, to be gone until July 30. Mrs. William J. Gaynor and her daughter, Helen and Ruth, together with a big crowd of young people, were on the pier. A shower of confetti and cheers formed the parting salute.

### WILSON IS UPHELD BY THE SENATORS IN HIS WAR ON HUERTA

(Continued from First Page.)

without saying that, here is a greater wrong to be atoned and a wrong which must not be and shall not be repeated.

"I cannot be put in a position where I appear to pick and choose between the factions that to-day tear Mexico asunder. I cannot join in any resolution which puts the United States in the position of preferring one murderer and cutthroat above another murderer and cutthroat.

"I have no desire to criticize President Wilson for his failure to recognize Gen. Huerta. He, no doubt, proceeded on grounds appearing to him as sufficient. I condemn as strongly as I can the methods of treachery and bloodshed by which Huerta reached his present position. But the fact that I condemn his methods does not lead me to put myself in a position which by distortion of words which we utter here, would put me behind Villa-Villa, who began life as a hired assassin and whose pathway has been marked with bloodshed, rapine, plunder and by unnameable crimes."

Senator Williams asked how long it took Congress to pass the Spanish war resolution.

Senator La Follette replied that Congress took from April 11 to April 19 to pass the resolution in 1898.

Senator Shively, acting Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, replied to Lodge. He said expedition of the resolution was of "vital importance," and insisted that the Spanish war declaration was not parallel.

"It can become too late to take steps that will preserve peace; it is never too late to declare war," Shively explained. "The former is our aim. This is a good faith effort for the preservation of peace, rather than propagation of war. So the question of time is important."

Shively said the effect of the Lodge amendment could not be mistaken. "The President asked no authority from Congress," he said, "because he is not proposing to exercise the war power."

Senator Shively said the President had not asked Congress for "authority" because he did not wish to pursue a war. Mr. Shively contended the Lodge preamble would have no result but war.

"Would the seizure of Vera Cruz be an act of peace or an act of war?" asked Senator Brandagee. "It would not be an act of war," said Senator Shively. "It would be an act of reprisal. On many occasions has the United States landed forces and seized property and no war has ensued."

Senator John Sharp Williams, Democrat, then took the floor in support of the committee's resolution. "The time may come," he said, "when war over a mere punctilio will not be basis for war. But to-day, if the President had overlooked this insult to the flag he would have been condemned from every hill and valley in the United States. Therefore, with the world semi-barbaric, semi-civilized, I must support the President. I don't want to kill any Mexicans. I don't want any Mexicans killing me."

The Lodge substitute, Senator Williams said, was a declaration of war against Mexico and the Mexican people. "The world semi-barbaric, semi-civilized, I must support the President. I don't want to kill any Mexicans. I don't want any Mexicans killing me."

WANTS THE WORLD TO KNOW ITS ONLY AGAINST HUERTA. "I want," said Senator Williams, "this resolution to be so worded that the world shall know it shall be a war on Huerta until either Huerta salutes the flag or the President becomes an American prisoner or Huerta were to die."

A wave of applause swept the galleries. "The sergeant-at-arms will clear the galleries," directed the Vice-President. About a hundred men immediately were removed.

Huerta has studiously endeavored to insult the President and the Government of the United States. It is not a matter of injury or property or life. It's matter of insult to the honor of the flag. The President sounded the right keynote—Huerta. The House of Representatives struck the keynote—Victoriano Huerta. And when I vote for these resolutions I do it with the hope that the House in conference will insist on naming Huerta the insulting party.

"If war shall follow these resolutions the civilized world should know that it is war forced by Huerta. And if war shall come it should be war against not the Mexican people, but against Huerta."

### HUERTA SAYS MEXICO BARBERS NO ILL WILL TOWARD UNITED STATES

MEXICO CITY, April 21.—President Huerta, replying to queries from the newspapers, said last night:

"Mexico awaits with tranquillity the development of events growing out of the controversy with the United States, and in the remote case of friction between the countries the people of this republic will bear no animosity toward the people of the United States, whose neighbors they are."

In a previous statement he said: "Gen. Huerta offers all guarantees to foreigners, American included, who remain in Mexico, and he will improve this opportunity to show the world that his Government and Mexico are moral and civilized."

against, not the Mexican people, but against Huerta. "If you once get into Mexico, it will be the hardest thing in the world to get out of there again. I am for the committee resolution because if this assassin, this traitor, this brute, who is now in authority in Mexico should salute the flag before we go into Mexico, we would not have to go. Under the Lodge resolution we would have to go."

Senator Bradley, Republican, of Kentucky, declared his willingness to support the President.

"I am not only in favor of sending the flag to demand reparation for insult," he said, "but I am in favor of sending the flag to Mexico to protect American citizens from rapine and plunder and murder. I agree with the Senator from Massachusetts that the present resolution is not broad enough."

ANOTHER REGIMENT OF MARINES CALLED; WILL SAIL TO-MORROW.

WASHINGTON, April 21.—The Navy Department this afternoon ordered another regiment of marines from Philadelphia to Vera Cruz. The marines are expected to leave for the front to-morrow.

PHILADELPHIA, April 21.—Awaiting orders to sail to any Mexican port, the torpedo boat destroyers Roe and Perkins are lying at the navy yard with steam up and their bows pointing toward the Delaware Capes ready for departure at a moment's notice. Three shifts of men are working day and night on the cruiser Salem and the supply ship Panther, which may be ordered to Mexican waters.

Commandant Benson of the navy yard said the Salem would get away on Sunday. The Chester will be in charge of Commander H. H. Church and will carry 354 men. It is one of the fastest boats in the navy.

Workmen and seamen at the yard began loading provisions to-day on the battleship Ohio and the cruiser Tennessee. It was said the Ohio would be the next vessel ordered to Mexican waters.

MISSISSIPPI SAILS WITH 600 MARINES AND AEROPLANES.

PENSACOLA, Fla., April 21.—The battleship Mississippi, with 600 marines aboard, sailed this morning for Vera Cruz. The warship also carried four naval aviators with their hydroaeroplanes.

The tender Dixie departed last night for the Mexican port.

### MEXICO CITY QUIET; HUERTA OBDURATE, TRYING FOR PEACE

Foreign Diplomats in Mexico City Endeavor to Persuade Dictator to Recede.

MEXICO CITY, April 21.—That various European diplomats are endeavoring to induce Provisional President Huerta to recede from his protocol demand and thus open the way for a peaceful settlement of the Tampico incident with the United States is the impression derived in Mexico City from various conferences which almost all of these diplomats held yesterday with Foreign Minister Lopez y Portillo.

The latter also held a long conference with Huerta, but what transpired was not made public.

Late last night there was no indication that President Huerta intends to yield the question of the protocol, which he regards as the vital issue, "and necessary and logical."

It is pointed out that the Mexican officials have yielded on the question of salutes not being simultaneous but successive, demanding the protocol leading up to the salutes that the facts might be "put on record in the proper way."

Mexico does not see why this simple formality should be objected to. President Huerta has maintained absolute serenity.

Charge d'Affaires O'Shaughnessy told anxious inquirers to-day that for the present he shall have no more statements to make.

He was the recipient of a constant stream of Americans, and every minute Consul-General Shanklin was called up by telephone to answer inquiries regarding the exodus from

Mexico ordered by the State Department at Washington. He says he has received no further instructions and that as soon as he does they will be displayed in the usual manner in the Consulate rooms and receive publicity through the press.

Mr. Shanklin would not undertake to advise Americans individually as to what they should do.

There was no suggestion of disorder here last night. A committee of women saw War Minister Blanquet and offered to recruit a regiment of one thousand women to fight the Americans in the event of hostilities.

EX-PRESIDENT DIAZ SILENT ON HIS PLANS.

MONTE CARLO, April 21.—Gen. Porfirio Diaz, formerly Mexican dictator, has come here to recover from the after effects of an attack of grippe. He is accompanied by his wife. The convalescence of the General, who is nearly eighty-four, is progressing normally, although he is troubled with deafness. He shows great interest in the news about Mexico and besides reading all available newspapers receives many private telegrams on the subject.

Gen. Diaz resolutely refused to-day to make any comment whatever upon the action of the United States toward Gen. Huerta when a correspondent reminded him of his often repeated remark that the only circumstances under which he would return to Mexico would be when peace had been established there or when his country was attacked by a foreign power. Some months ago Gen. Diaz asked Gen. Huerta, as an act of patriotism, to retire from the dictatorship of Mexico in favor of some one who could obtain the confidence of all factions in the country.

CRUISER SOUTH DAKOTA HEADING FOR MEXICO.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 21.—The cruiser South Dakota, from the Puget Sound Navy Yard, with 300 marines aboard, entered San Francisco Bay at 4 A. M. to-day. She proceeded to California City to take on coal preparatory to departing for Mexican waters. About 500 marines from the Mare Island Navy Yard also will be taken aboard the South Dakota.

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